

Christa Martin exemplifies the volunteer spirit. She was born and raised in Maury County and continues to serve the community she cherishes so deeply. Growing up on a farm instilled in Dr. Martin the three main focuses of her life: education, public service, and faith. Through her humble beginnings, Dr. Martin said she learned from her surroundings, “the farm . . . the road . . . and the community,” and believes, “you didn’t have to have letters behind your name to be educated.”

Through various chapters of learning, Dr. Martin has never stalled in her intellectual journey. She graduated from Columbia State Community College in 1975 with a degree in Data Processing. A year later, she received a Master of Science in Computer Information Systems from Middle Tennessee State University. She then received a doctorate of Higher Educational Leadership from Nova Southeastern University.

Dr. Martin not only earned her degrees from these institutions, but also chose to give back. From 1979 to 2003, she worked in the Computer Science Department at Columbia State Community College. Since 2003, Dr. Martin has worked in a promoted role as an Assistant to the President, specializing in Access and Diversity.

Dr. Martin has also served her community well. She served on the Columbia City Council for over 22 years and is finishing her last term as the Vice Mayor of Columbia, where she is the first African American female to hold that position. Dr. Martin also serves on the Board of Directors for Columbia Power & Water, Blood Assurance, and Public Entity Partners. She serves non-profit organizations such as the Boys & Girls Club of South-Central Tennessee, Columbia Miracle League, Maury County NAACP, and many more.

Dr. Martin continues to be involved at New Smyrna Cumberland Presbyterian Church as a teacher, missionary, clerk, elder, and choir member.

Dr. Martin is a pillar of the community who is dedicated to leaving it a better place than she found it. Her life shows how passion and commitment can create a causal chain that benefits whole cities, counties, and, indeed, the state. I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging this great American’s unwavering devotion toward education, her community, and her faith.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JULIA REICHERT

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Julia Reichert, an Academy Award winning documentarian from my district in Southwest Ohio. Julia passed away earlier this month at her home in Yellow Springs after a battle with cancer. I appreciate this opportunity to pay tribute to her life and legacy.

Julia came to the Miami Valley to attend college and eventually settled there where she would spend the next 50 years producing films and documentaries that challenged viewers’ preconceptions on gender, class, race, and economics. Julia debuted her first documen-

tary, *Growing Up Female*, in 1971 and it is widely recognized as one of the first films from the Women’s liberation movement. The Library of Congress honored Julia’s work on *Growing Up Female* by selecting the film for preservation in the United States National Film Registry.

Julia would continue her passion and work in film making, receiving Oscar nominations in 1976, 1984, and 2010 before finally breaking through to win the 2020 Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature for her film, *American Factory*. Julia’s film captures the arrival of Fuyao, a Chinese glass manufacturer, that comes to the United States and reopens a shuttered GM plant in Moraine, Ohio, employing 2,000 workers in the Miami Valley. She captured the tumultuous journey between high-tech Chinese employers and working-class Americans with a creative style that showcases the stark contrasts in the two cultures, invoking empathy for both parties.

Her films and documentaries are not the only legacy that Julia will leave behind. As a professor of Film Production at Wright State University for the past 28 years, she influenced hundreds of lives in the classroom. Julia’s impact on the Miami Valley and her country will not soon be forgotten and her legacy as a storyteller, advocate, and teacher will live on for generations to come, both in her work and in the lives she touched.

HONORING JAMIE MILLER FOR HIS SERVICE TO MISSISSIPPI

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my former staff, Jamie Miller, for his dedication to the state of Mississippi.

Jamie was born in Gulfport, MS, and graduated from Gulfport High School. He has an associate degree from Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, where he attended on a baseball scholarship, and a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg. Jamie has been married to his wife, Kelli, for 25 years, and they have 3 children. Their oldest daughter, Maddison Miller Cuevas, is a University of Southern Mississippi graduate and lives in Birmingham, AL. Their second daughter, Carson Miller, attends Mississippi State University in Starkville, and their youngest son, Landon Miller, is a freshman at Stanford University.

Jamie began his career as a coastal ecologist working for the Department of Marine Resources in 1997. The City of Pascagoula hired him in 1999 as a planning coordinator and grant administrator, focused on downtown development and hazard mitigation. He worked his way to the position of Deputy City Manager before leaving for the private sector. After Katrina, Jamie worked with the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency to assist local communities with recovery efforts but joined Governor Haley Barbour’s Office of Recovery and Renewal in April 2006.

In 2011, Jamie joined my team, initially as the District Director but became Chief of Staff in my Washington, D.C. office. During his tenure, he worked to connect federal resources

and legislative solutions to South Mississippi communities, businesses, and individual constituents. Jamie participated in the drafting and the RESTORE Act, which paved the way for billions of dollars to be directed to the Gulf States for recovery from the Deep-Water Horizon Oil Spill. He also worked on National Flood Insurance Program, Defense, and Commercial Space policy.

Following his time as a federal employee, Jamie continued to serve the state of Mississippi. In 2013, Governor Bryant appointed Jamie as Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Marine resources. Then in 2018, Jamie received another Governor appointed leadership role as the Deputy Director of the Mississippi Development Agency. Jamie is currently the Chief Operations Officer at MDA and is responsible for all aspects of the agency’s administrative, technology, and financial divisions. Jamie directly coordinates the staff assigned to the administration of the Gulf Coast Restoration Fund.

Madam Speaker, it is with gratitude and appreciation that I honor this Mississippi native and my friend, Jamie Miller.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF WALT JORDAN

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 14, 2022

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am honored to salute the 40-year career of Walt Jordan, Vice President of Governmental Affairs for Oncor Electric Delivery, as he celebrates his well-deserved retirement at the end of December. This native Texan has made lasting impacts on one of our nations most critical industries and has played a key role in ensuring Texas continues to lead in energy innovation and delivery.

With his “can-do” spirit, genuine personality, and high-minded vision, Walt has been a trusted leader and a fierce advocate for common-sense energy policies not only in Texas but also in Washington, D.C. During his four decades with Oncor, the largest transmission and distribution electric utility in Texas, he brought his tremendous work ethic and commitment to excellence to every challenge his company and state encountered.

Heavily involved in the Texas utility industry since 1982, Walt made critical contributions to restructure the Texas electricity market, support renewable energy generation, and enhance infrastructure investments. With a “no task too big” approach, Walt shouldered a variety of responsibilities across his illustrious career and has made lasting impacts on this critical industry for the next generation of Texans.

Retirement is meant to be celebrated and enjoyed. It is not the end of a career, but the beginning of a new adventure. It is my honor to recognize the service of Walt Jordan as he starts this new chapter of his life alongside his beloved wife Kim and son Luke. On behalf of Central Texas, I thank him for his superb work and wish him the very best.